

COTTERIDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL



1st May 2026

Message from the Headteacher

As we approach the final few days before the Key Stage 2 SATs tests, which are scheduled for 11 to 14 May 2026 I wanted to take a moment to celebrate our wonderful Year 6 pupils.

What SATs Really Mean

First and foremost, I want to be absolutely clear about something: **SATs tests in Year 6 do not measure what truly wonderful pupils your children are.** These tests cannot capture:

- The kindness they show to younger children in the playground
- The creativity they bring to their art and drama
- Their resilience when facing challenges
- The friendships they've built and nurtured
- Their curiosity and love of learning
- The unique talents and personalities that make each of them special
- How much they've grown, not just academically, but as kind, thoughtful young people

The tests are simply a snapshot of their performance in reading, grammar, punctuation, spelling and mathematics on a few specific days in May. They tell us something about their academic progress, but they tell us nothing about their character, their potential, or their worth as individuals.

My Message to Year 6

To our Year 6 pupils, we want you to know: **we are incredibly proud of each and every one of you.** You have worked so hard throughout your time at Cotteridge Primary School, and you have grown into remarkable young people.

As the tests approach, here's what we want you to remember:

Stay calm. Take deep breaths. Remember that feeling a little bit nervous is completely normal, but these tests are just tests – they're not a measure of who you are as a person.

Try to relax. Get plenty of sleep in the week before the tests. Eat a good breakfast each morning. Take breaks when you need them. Look after yourself.

Do your best. That's all anyone can ever ask of you. Your best is always good enough for us. We don't expect perfection – we just want you to show what you know and what you can do.

Remember that we believe in you. Your teachers have seen how hard you've worked and how much you've learned. We know you're ready, and we'll be supporting you every step of the way.

Looking Ahead

Whatever the results, we know that our Year 6 pupils will go on to do amazing things. They are ready for secondary school, not because of what they achieve in these tests, but because of the well-rounded, resilient, kind young people they have become. Year 6, have made us proud every single day. They've shown determination, kindness, creativity and courage. They've supported each other, worked hard, and grown so much. These tests are just a tiny part of their story – and whatever happens, we will continue to be proud of them.

To all our Year 6 families, thank you for your continued support and partnership. We're all in this together, and we'll all be cheering on every single one of our pupils.

With very best wishes,
Jason Willetts



Dates For Your Diary



May

Mon 4th	Bank Holiday - School closed to all
Tues 5th	Yr4 Viking day in school
Fri 8th	Cotteridge's Got Talent final 6:00pm (ticketed event)
Mon 11th	Start of SATs week for Yr6 5N start swimming lessons
Fri 15th	Yr6 trip to Drayton Manor Yr4 Learning share 2:30pm
Mon 18th	Sports Day attempt 1
Fri 22nd	Diversity Day

Mon 25th - Fri 29th HALF TERM

All children return to school Monday 1st June

June

Mon 1st	Everyone return to school
Tues 2nd	Class photos
Weds 3rd	Yr6 Residential trip depart
Thurs 4th	Reception trip to Wythall Transport Museum
Fri 5th	Yr6 Residential trip return EYFS and KS1 PTA discos
Mon 8th	Book Fair week starts

**Monday is a
bank holiday,
so school is
closed to all.**



SMARTPHONE FREE CHILDHOOD

Are you considering whether to buy your primary school child a phone?

How do I talk to my primary school age child about delaying smartphones?



Need help deciding on the recommended phones for children?
Click the image to find out the 8 Best Phones for Kids



Attendance Matters



Friday 17th to Thursday 30th April 2026

Turtles	98.3
Dolphins	99.1
1BD	96.5
1BH	95.7
2N	96.5
2W	98.8
3B	97.7
3T	93.1
4A	98.2
4D	98.6
5N	99.0
5A	96.8
6S	94.5
6A	96.4



Whole School this
fortnight : 97.1%

TARGET : 96%



Sports Day

Here is advanced warning that Sports Day (weather permitting) will be on Monday 18th May and will be held in Cotteridge Park.

Here are the timings:

Time	Year Group
9:15 – 9:55am	Year 6
9:55 – 10:25am	Reception
10:25 – 10:55am	Nursery
10:55 – 11:35am	Year 1
11:35am – 12:15pm	Year 2
12:15 – 12:55pm	Year 4
1:30 – 2:10pm	Year 3
2:10 – 2:50pm	Year 5



Father's Day



Activities

Here is advanced warning of the dates and times of the Father's Day activities in case any dads/significant men in your child's life who would like to attend, need to book time off work. Each session will last approximately 45 minutes:

Thursday 18th June 2026

9.10am	Year 6 classes
10.05am	Year 4 classes
11.00am	Year 1 classes
2.00pm	Year 5 classes

Friday 19th June 2025

9.10am	Nursery and Year 3 classes
10.05am	Reception classes
2:00pm	Year 2 Classes

May's Themed Dinner

If your child would like a themed dinner on this day, simply book a dinner as normal for Thursday 21st May.

FIFA WORLD CUP 2026

THE FIFA WORLD GOVERNING BODY OF FOOTBALL WAS FOUNDED ON THIS DAY IN 1904. SO LET'S START THE COUNTDOWN TO THE FIFA WORLD CUP 2026 !!! 18 DAYS AND COUNTING !!!!!!!

JOIN US FOR SOME FOOTBALL FAVOURITES FROM OUR LOCAL FOOTBALL STADIUMS

COME ON ENGLAND

BAGGIES BALTI PIE
A SLICE OF HOME MADE CHICKEN OR QUORN (V) BALTI PIE

BIRMINGHAM CITY SMALL FRY
ST ANDREWS TRADITIONAL FISH AND CHIPS

THE PRINCE WILLIAM ASTON VILLA SMASH BURGER
HOME MADE CHEESY SMASHED BEEF OR QUORN (V) BURGER

THE OLD GOLD PUD
WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS POPCORN ROCKY ROAD

ACCOMPANIMENTS
POMME NOISETTE FOOTBALLS, CHIPPED POTATOES, CORN AND PEAS, BAKED BEANS

ENJOY OUR SPECIAL MENU TO HAVE THE CHANCE OF WINNING A FIFA WORLD CUP 2026 PRIZE

THURSDAY 21ST MAY

COOMBS
CATERING PARTNERSHIP



Suncream In School

As we enjoy the warmer, sunnier days, we want to ensure that all children are kept safe and comfortable during outdoor activities at school.

We kindly ask that you apply a long-lasting, all-day sun cream to your child **before they arrive at school** each morning. This will help protect them during playtimes, outdoor learning, and other activities that take place outside.

To ensure the safety and well-being of all pupils, we also ask that **children do not bring sun cream into school**. This is to prevent any accidental sharing or misuse, as some children may have allergies or sensitivities to certain products.

If your child is particularly sensitive to the sun, please feel free to speak with their class teacher or a member of the office staff so we can offer any additional support needed.

Well Done Elsa!



We love encouraging our pupils to take part in writing opportunities, and it's always exciting to see their creativity recognised beyond the classroom. I am thrilled to share that Elsa in Year 3 has had her story selected for publication by *Sparks Young Writers*. Her piece, *The McDonald's Night Shift*, really impressed the editors, who said they loved her fun characters, Cheeky Chip and Super Wrap, and could clearly imagine the events thanks to her clear descriptions.

The McDonald's Night Shift

Once upon a time, in the dark, spooky McDonalds, there was a chip, but he was no ordinary chip... He was Cheeky Chip! He started causing mischief all over McDonalds. He squashed all the burgers, squeezed all the chicken out of the breadcrumbs, and heaved all the chilly spices into the tomato ketchup. Who could save them?

Never fear, super Wrap is here! Super Wrap picked all the chilly spices out of the ketchup, puffed up the burgers, and popped the chicken into the breadcrumbs. But Cheeky Chip was still on a roll... So Super Wrap unwrapped himself and caught Cheeky Chip.

The end?

I will continue to share writing competitions and opportunities throughout the year - who knows whose work we might be celebrating next!

Mrs Kim Taylor

Year 3 Class Teacher & Writing Lead

[Spark Young Writers - Creative Writing Groups in the West Midlands](#)

Trips Final Payment



The final instalment for this academic year's school trips was due on Wednesday 29th April. If you have not yet paid this and you are able to, please could you log in to your SchoolMoney/ Teachers2Parents account and make payment.

A letter was sent to all parents in September with the breakdown of which trips each year group would be attending and the full cost of the trips combined. To make them easier to pay, we break the final cost down into three equal instalments.

Whilst contributions for educational trips are entirely voluntary, if not enough parents contribute, some trips may not be able to go ahead.

5N Class Swimming

Advanced Warning

5N will start their weekly swimming lessons on Monday 11th May for 9 weeks. Therefore, please remember to pack your child's swimming kit every Monday from Monday 11th May up to and including Monday 13th July.

Girls require a one-piece swimsuit and boys require swimming trunks or swimwear that is above the knee. All children will also need a towel and a suitable bag.

Goggles are optional.

Thank you!



COTTERIDGE'S GOT TALENT

The LIVE Final!

We still have some tickets left for anyone who would like to come and watch the talent show final!

Friday 8th May

6:00pm

£3 per ticket

Purchase from the school office



*Bournville Village
Children's Festival*

Saturday 27th June 2026

*We are looking for children aged between 4yrs
and 18 yrs to dance around the Maypole at this
year's Festival*

Everyone is Welcome!

Contact Maypole Admin at

Email : BVCmaypole@outlook.com

Mobile : 07817 323401



Food Bank Donations

We are beginning to run out of some things in our food bank, so wanted to reach out to our wonderful school community to see if anyone would be willing to donate any of the following items:

- ⇒ Pasta
- ⇒ Pasta sauces
- ⇒ Curry sauces
- ⇒ Rice
- ⇒ Casserole sauces



Of course, we would always be grateful for anything else that you can think of that would be good to donate too.

If you would like anything from our food bank, please speak with Mrs Burnett.



Netball News

Players of the Week:

Monday 20th April - Cyan 4D

Thursday 23rd - Emily 5A

Monday 27th - Layla 3B

Thursday 30th - Robin 5N

Upcoming matches:

- Tues 23rd June - All day tournament, Billesley



Netball Match Results



A busy week for our netball team.

League match against St Laurence and a friendly against St Edwards.

Cotteridge: 17 St Laurence: 0

The weather was dreadful but our play was perfect!

Player of match: Lois 6S

Cotteridge: 13 St Edwards: 3

The sun was shining today and our play was hot! hot! hot!

Cotteridge played with determination and drive.

Player of match: Jess 6S

Umpiring was awesome yet again by Eva.

Cotteridge: 18 Bournville: 5

A challenging start with the second quarter ending very close 6-5. Cotteridge then showed resilience, determination and drive and ended the game with a magnificent win.

Player of match yet again Jess 6S.

Well done girls you are amazing!

Super proud as always.

Mrs Smith





**CHILDCARE
FROM JUST
£3.20 PER
HOUR**

**MAY**
HOLIDAY CLUBS 


**ST ALBANS CATHOLIC PRIMARY,
KINGS HEATH, B14 5AL
TUESDAY 26TH - FRIDAY 29TH MAY**

**£22.50 9AM-4PM (5-11 YEAR OLDS)
£14.00 9AM-1PM (4 YEAR OLDS)
CURRENTLY AWAITING OFSTED REGISTRATION**

**PRICE CHANGES COME INTO EFFECT:
£23.50 FROM MON 27TH APRIL
£24.50 FROM MON 4TH MAY**

**SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT
WWW.PREMIER-EDUCATION.COM/HOLIDAY-CAMPS**




Book today
premier-education.com

 **Premier**
Education


Based on 20,000 reviews



Dottie's Playhouse

Looking for something fun to do with your child? Come and visit us at Dottie's Playhouse! Role play village where your child's imagination can come to life.

- Perfect for ages 6 months - 7 years old
- Role play areas including - Tea Room, Salon, Vets, Doctors, School, Fire Truck, Construction, Driving Zone, Castle, Baby Softplay
- Birthday party hire available
- Seasonal & Special events
- SEN friendly sessions
- School trips
- Cafe with refreshments

Reception 2026 coffee mornings taking place in July & August



Email - Hello@dottiesplayhouse.com
www.dottiesplayhouse.com

Unit 23 Wharfedale Complex, 9 Lifford Lane,
Stirchley, B30 3JH



NSPCC

Helpline

For any concerns about a child
help@nspcc.org.uk | 0808 800 5000

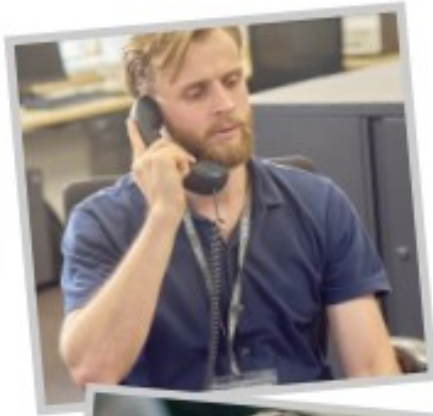
We're here for you

The NSPCC is the UK's leading child protection charity. We have been keeping children safe for over 140 years, and we are here to help with any concerns about a child, no matter how big or small.



Any of these worries sound familiar?

- My child is being bullied at school.
- My teenager hardly talks to me anymore.
- How can I talk to my child about healthy relationships?
- The child at youth club told me about a secret.
- It's not safe for me and my children at home.
- I'm struggling to feed my children.
- My neighbour's child is always crying.
- I don't know who my children are talking to online.



How can the NSPCC help?

The NSPCC Helpline can be contacted seven days a week, online or on the phone. Our child protection specialists are here to listen, offer advice, and support to take action if needed.

Whether you want to report child abuse and neglect, or are worried about a child and not sure what to do, we have advice for you.

It doesn't matter who you are – a parent, a family member, friend, neighbour or professional. Anyone can contact us for advice.

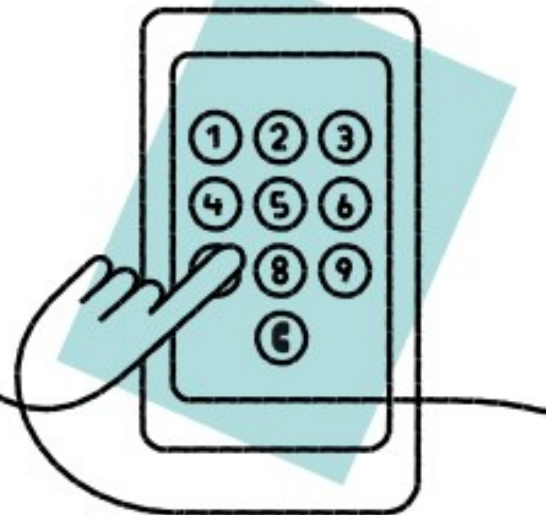
Do I have to say who I am?

There are lots of reasons why people want to be anonymous. You don't have to tell us who you are, where you live, or share your contact details. If you do choose to share any of these with us, you can ask us not to share them with other agencies – like the police or social services. However, if you told us something that made us worry that you or a child is being hurt or at risk, we would have to report this.

Call **0800 800 5000**

Visit **[nspcc.org.uk/helpline](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/helpline)**

Email **Help@NSPCC.org.uk**



Cotteridge Bike Bus

The Cotteridge School Bike Bus has been running every Friday for nearly three years. It's run by a group of parents, and we have a pre-agreed route with timed 'Bike Bus Stops'. We are thinking of revising the route and we'd like to get your feedback!

Would you like the Bike Bus to run near you?

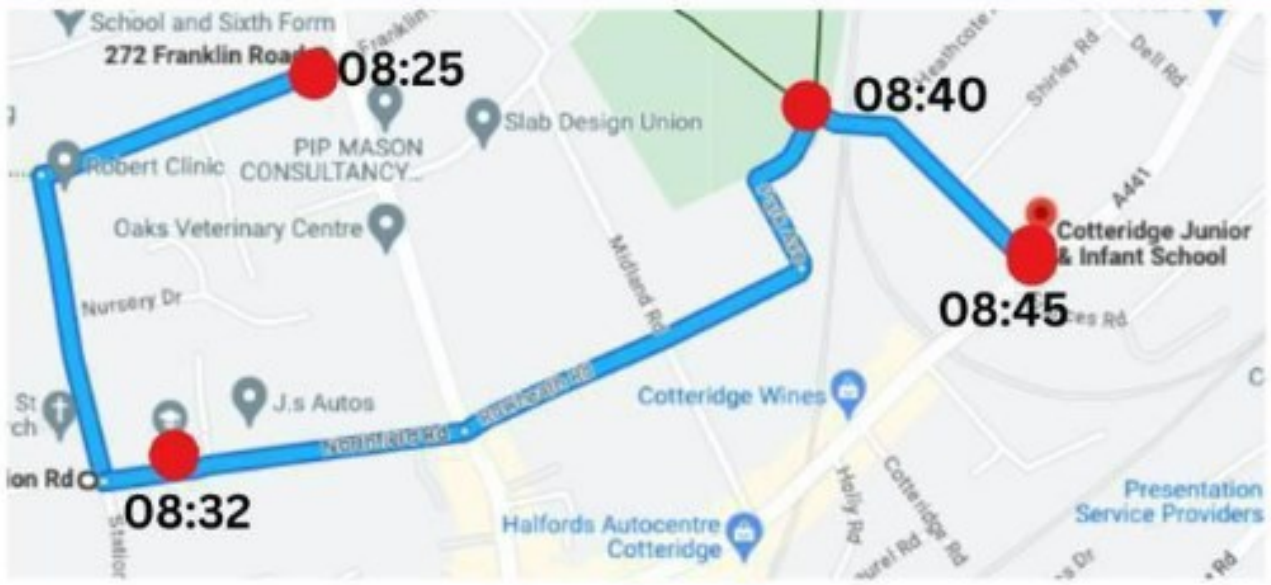


bit.ly/cotteridgebikebus



New Times

Bike Bus to Cotteridge School



Every Friday Morning

Flat route designed for all ages

Join at any point

Please wear helmets and bright clothes



All children MUST be accompanied by a parent/carer who is responsible for their safety at all times



Mrs Tucker
Assistant
Headteacher
Designated
Safeguarding
Lead

Mr Willetts
Headteacher
Designated
Safeguarding
Lead

Mrs Burnett
Pastoral
Manager
Designated
Safeguarding
Lead

Mrs Timmins
SENDCo

Mrs Smith
Learning
Mentor

Mr Adam
Jarvis
Safeguarding
Governor



Our Safeguarding Team are always here to help!

Out of school hours, if you are concerned about a child, please contact Birmingham Children's Trust on 0121 303 1888. In an emergency, always dial 999.

If you have any concerns about a child our safeguarding team are always here to help. You can contact them during school hours on 0121 464 2865 / enquiry@cotridge.bham.sch.uk. Alternatively, you can find them in the playground areas during the morning drop off and afternoon pick up times. Outside of school hours, if you are concerned about a child, please contact Birmingham Children's Trust on 0121 303 1888. In an emergency, always dial 999.

How Can We Help You?

If you are unsure about any information or require more assistance about your child, please contact your child's class teacher in the first instance.

If you require further support, please contact one of our Assistant Head Teachers: Mrs Darby for Nursery to Year 2, or Mrs Tucker for Years 3 to 6.

Mrs Pickering Ernst is currently on maternity leave.

If your query is then still not resolved, please contact Mr Willetts.



Mrs Darby
Assistant Head
EYFS / KS1



Mrs Pickering Ernst
Assistant Head
Years 3 and 4



Mrs Tucker
Assistant Head
Years 5 and 6